

Adult Literacy Contact Centre



1-800-663-1293
1-604-684-0624

The ALCC is a project of the
Adult Basic Education Association

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NEWS...

Special thanks to Pat Mettrick from the Ministry of Social Services and Housing who attended the Project Literacy Greater Vancouver Meeting to discuss funding policies. At this time, MSSH has no policy on literacy eg. (people who are illiterate are not considered unemployable).

Project Literacy Greater Vancouver is currently in the process of incorporating as a non-profit society.

MacDonalds Helps Promote Literacy
MacDonalds and the Surrey School Board have agreed to sponsor a joint literacy promotion in honor of International Literacy year.

Placemats have been designed by the Invergarry Learning Centre with a geographic theme map of Surrey. Information about where one can get free

help with reading and writing in the Surrey district will be on the placemats.

CFUW Canadian Federation of University for Women has received \$3000.00 from Secretary of State to attend the International University of Women Conference in Helsinki this August.

Phyllis Scott and Audrey Thomas will be attending the conference as B.C. participants. They plan to give a workshop and discuss what Canada is doing about the literacy problem.

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#622-510 W. Hastings St.
Vancouver, BC V6B 1L8
1-800-663-1293 (toll free)
684-0624 (lower mainland)

If you have any notices for upcoming newsletters, please send information to: the Contact Centre, c/o Cherie Layne before the last day of each month.

news

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B.C Literacy Programs get Further \$60,000.00 in Joint Federal/Provincial Venture

The Secretary of State and the Ministry of Advanced Education and Job Training have announced that B.C. will receive a \$60,000 cost-shared arrangement for the province's literacy program.

The two governments have earmarked funds to support research that is being undertaken by the Provincial Literacy Advisory Committee. The money will be used to identify ways to increase public awareness of literacy and for research into the problem.

The Gail Symthe Bursary

The Adult Basic Education Association of B.C. has made a gracious donation to this bursary at Douglas College.

CONFERENCES AND MEETINGS

The Lower Mainland Council of the International Reading Association

LOMCIRA will be holding its first fall conference called "Literacy for Life" this September 30, 1989. The day long conference will be held at the Hyatt Regency Hotel, 655 Burrard St., Van.

For more information about conference topics and registration contact Diana Hill, 873 - 1321 or Meredyth Kezar, 876-9816.

"Growing Places" Vancouver Public Library

VPL is conducting a public awareness campaign concerning the planning process for the new central library. Public meetings will be held on the following days at 7:30p.m.

July 11 Britannia Branch
1661 Napier St.

July 13 Kerrisdale
Community Centre
41st & W.Blvd.

July 17 Central Library
750 Burrard St.

July 19 Kitsilano
Community Centre
2690 Larch St.

July 20 Fraserview Branch
Library
1950 Argyle Dr.

The library invites submissions from the community. Information kits are available if you wish to speak at any of these meetings. Call 665-3551 for more info.

If you would like to receive the newsletter, please call the ALCC.

ADULT LITERACY CONTACT CENTRE UPDATE

MAY 1989 REPORT

Initial Calls by Learners or
Friend/Family of Learner

By Community

Vancouver	7
Burnaby	2
New Westminster	1
Surrey	2
Delta	2
White Rock	1
Parksville	1
Prince George	1
Fort St. John	1
Total	18

By Program

ABE	17
ESL	1

Calls were generated by:

Telephone Operator	
or Book	8
PSA'S	4
College	3
Poster (Parksville)	1
Friend	2

One learner identified the opportunity to study at home with a tutor as a positive step towards gaining the confidence to eventually attend a class.

Other favourable comments were directed towards small classes where learners

receive close, individual attention from the instructor and where they are able to work at a pace with which they feel comfortable.

The following were identified as barriers to learning:

- inability to pay for daycare to attend classes
- lack of volunteers for in-home tutoring
- anxiety about attending classes
- non-availability of programs during the summer
- non-availability of basic literacy courses through distance education
- difficulty in reaching contact name in large institutions
- lack of immigration status required to attend certain programs (ESL)
- feelings of loss, anger, and frustration on the part of learning disabled adults who are reluctant to attend regular programs because of negative experiences in the past

Initial Calls by Volunteers
in May 1989

By Community

Vancouver	3
Burnaby	1
Surrey	1
Penticton	1
Britannia Beach	1
Tofino	1
Dawson Creek	1
Total	9

Calls were generated by:

Poster	4
College	2
Library	1
Telephone Book	1
PSA's	1

The absence of training programs was identified by volunteers as a barrier to their fully effective participation in the learning process. While they unanimously commented upon how much they enjoyed tutoring, and how rewarding they found it, volunteers felt strongly that a training program or initial orientation period would make an important contribution towards helping them to become better tutors.

**Next Project Literacy
Greater Vancouver Meeting**

July 28, 9:00 AM

**Invergarry Learning Centre
14525 110A Ave.
Surrey, BC V3W 1H9 (584-5424)
(See map below)**

Agenda Item:

- A Vancouver School Board member will discuss school board policies towards literacy.

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Newsletter**

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